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THE 1997-8 EL NIÑO ATLAS OF OCEANOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS ALONG THE WEST COAST OF NORTH AMERICA (23°N-50°N)

by

Carmen G. Castro, Reiko Michisaki, Timothy R. Baumgartner, Steven Bograd, Ruben Castro, Francisco P. Chavez, Curtis A. Collins, Reginaldo Durazo, Joaquín García, Gilberto Gaxiola-Castro, Thomas Hayward, Adriana Huyer, Ron Lynn, Affonso S. Mascarenhas, Marie R. D. Robert, Robert L. Smith, Patricia A. Wheeler, and Frank A. Whitney.

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**RADM David Ellison, USN
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This report was prepared by: Carmen G. Castro, Reiko Michisaki, Timothy R. Baumgartner, Steven Bograd, Ruben Castro, Francisco P. Chavez, Curtis A. Collins, Reginaldo Durazo, Joaquín García, Gilberto Gaxiola-Castro, Thomas Hayward, Adriana Huyer, Ron Lynn, Affonso S. Mascarenhas, Marie R. D. Robert, Robert L. Smith, Patricia A. Wheeler, and Frank A. Whitney.

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1. ATLAS

During 1997-8, El Niño conditions in the eastern tropical Pacific propagated into the North Pacific Ocean along the West Coast of North America. The evolution of oceanographic conditions along the coast was measured by a series of regional oceanographic programs ranging from Baja California to British Columbia (Chavez & Collins, 2002). For the most frequently sampled transects, hydrographic data were assembled into an electronic Atlas.

The Atlas can be viewed at <http://www.mbari.org/bog/atlas/> as well as on the CD-ROM that is included in this technical report. The Atlas shows (a) vertical distributions of the hydrographic variables for each transect, (b) time distance plots of these variables at three depths (0, 100 and 300 m) and at three isopycnal levels (25.8, 26.2 and 26.6 kg/m³) and (c) the composite horizontal distributions for temperature, salinity and nitrate at 50 dbar as well as the geopotential thickness of the upper 500 dbar for the periods January, April and July 1998. The Atlas also contains listings of hydrographic data. Castro et al. (2002) describe the Atlas in more detail.

To view the CD-ROM, insert the disk into the CD-drive on a personal computer. It automatically opens in a web browser. The chapters of the atlas can be accessed by pointing and clicking with the computer's mouse.

LIST OF REFERENCES

Castro, C.G., T. R. Baumgartner, S. Bograd, R. Castro, F. P. Chavez, C.A. Collins, R. Durazo, J. García, G. Gaxiola-Castro, T. Hayward, A. Huyer, R. Lynn, A.S. Mascarenhas, M.R.D. Robert, R. L. Smith, P.A. Wheeler, and F.A. Whitney, Introduction to "The 1997-8 El Niño Atlas of Oceanographic Conditions along the West Coast of North America (23°N-50°N)", *Progress in Oceanography*, *in press*, 2002.

Chavez, F.P. & Collins, C.A. editors, Observations of the 1997-1998 El Niño along the West Coast of North America, *Progress in Oceanography*, *in press*, 2002.

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3. Dr. Curt Collins.....(1)
Department of Oceanography, OC/Co
Naval Postgraduate School
411 Dyer Road, Rm 331
Monterey, CA 93943-5101
4. Dr. Francisco Chavez.....(1)
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
7700 Sandholdt Road
Moss Landing, CA 95039-1620
5. Reiko Michisaki.....(1)
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